

Date: February 24, 2022

To: Maryland State Agencies

From: Maryland Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Legislative Subcommittee

Subject: Proposed Legislation Recommendations

In accordance with the requirement stating that the Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (MBPAC), through the Legislative Subcommittee, advises State government agencies on issues directly related to bicycling and pedestrian activity, the Committee has reviewed proposed legislation offered for the 2022 session in Annapolis. After our review, the subcommittee recommends the Administration support the following bills:

- a. HB0019 — Pedestrian Safety Plans (Safe Walk to School Act)
- b. HB0198 — Towing - Clearing and Disposal of Debris
- c. HB0254 (SB0874) — Infrastructure Review (Vision Zero Implementation Act of 2022)
- d. HB0656 (SB0880) — Safe Access for All (SAFE) Roads Act of 2022
- e. HB1153 — Vehicle Laws – Bicycles, Play Vehicles, and Unicycles – Riding on Sidewalks
- f. SB0025 (HB0007) — Death of Another Must Appear Violation (Sherry's and Christian's Law)
- g. SB0210 — Employer-Provided Commuter Benefits Expansion

While we are generally supportive of the concept behind HB0064 — Designated Shoulder Areas - Establishment and Use by Transit Buses, we have reservations that allowing Transit buses to use shoulder where bicyclists and pedestrians may be present, at speeds approaching 45 miles per hour (under the existing bill language) would present risks that should be addressed. Therefore, we suggest that the Administration condition its support of this bill upon amended language that would reduce the maximum speed on the shoulders to no more than 30 miles per hour.

We believe these upcoming proposed and anticipated articles of legislation enable cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally-friendly avenues for Maryland citizens, businesses, and State agencies to continue facing the challenges and finishing the work of investing in transformative projects. Supporting these articles of legislation increases the trust and support placed in you, who represent the citizens, businesses, and agencies of this great state.

The Committee would be pleased to discuss with the Administration the advice offered to provide additional insights or understanding of the recommendation offered. We look forward to continuing to work cooperatively with the Administration in all matters related to pedestrians and cyclists and appreciate the Administration's support.

Sincerely,

Steve Green, Jon Morrison, Marquette Rodgers & Antoine RJ Wright
Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Legislative Subcommittee